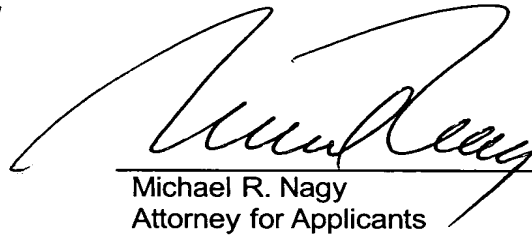


REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-4 and 9 are the subject of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/444,736, which has been allowed.

Claims 5-8 are presented for examination on the merits.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned with any questions that might arise at the telephone number indicated below

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael R. Nagy", is written over a horizontal line.

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